

Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission

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Minutes of Commission Meeting Regular Meeting | Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 10:00 AM

Location: Coverdell Legislative Office Building
Room 606, 18 Capitol Square SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

PRESENT:

Commission Members:

Jake Evans – Chairman
James D. Kreyenbuhl, Vice-Chairman
Allen W. Yee, Commission Member
Eric L. Barnum, Commission Member (via Telephone)
Robert A. Watts, Commission Member

Commission Staff:

David Emadi, Executive Secretary
Robert Lane, Deputy Executive Secretary
Bethany Whetzel, Deputy Executive Secretary
Tracey Watson, Staff Attorney
Jeff Morris, Legislative Liaison
Katie Easterwood, Legal Secretary
Chris Phelps, Paralegal
Erwin Yap, Office Administrator
Kim Greene, Court Reporter

Office of the Attorney General:

Christian Fuller, Assistant Attorney General

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 A.M. by Chairman Evans. Chairman Evans announced all commissioners that were present.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 19, 2018 & APRIL 18, 2019:

A motion was made and approved to adopt the commission meeting minutes for December 19, 2018 & April 18, 2019.

Motioned by: Chair Evans

Seconded by: Vice Chair Kreyenbuhl

Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

LOBBYIST APPEAL:

- Taylor Morison (BW)

After determination that Lobbyist Taylor Morison was not present, having been properly noticed and the case having been presented, a motion was made and approved to impose the \$550 late fee.

Motioned by: Chair Evans

An amended motion was made and approved to deny the appeal.

Motioned by: Vice Chair Kreyenbuhl
Seconded by: Commissioner Watts
Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

PRELIMINARY HEARINGS:

The following cases were continued at the request of the Respondent, no action necessary:

- 2017-0169PC: In the Matter of John W. Oxendine (RL) -*Continued at request of Respondent.*
- 2019-0011PC: In the Matter of Rohit Ammanamanchi (RL) -*Continued at request of Respondent.*

MOTION TO DISMISS:

After hearing the Motion to Dismiss, a motion was made and approved that the Motion to Dismiss be granted:

- 2010-0065: In the Matter of Democratic Party of GA; Roy Barnes (DE)
Motioned by: Commission Watts
Seconded by: Chair Evans
Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

MOTION FOR ATTORNEY FEES:

After having determined that the following movants had been properly noticed and no motion having been filed, a motion was made and approved that each of these matters regarding their attorney fees and pursuance thereof be deemed abandoned:

- 2017-0194: In the Matter of Laura Rencher (RL)
- 2017-0195: In the Matter of Joan Borzilleri (RL)
- 2017-0196: In the Matter of Gina Weller (RL)
- 2017-0198: In the Matter of Cindy Eade (RL)
- 2017-0199: In the Matter of Kathy Ortwerth Towers (RL)

Motioned by: Chair Evans
Seconded by: Vice Chair Kreyenbuhl

An amended motion was made and approved to clarify the case numbers and deem those matters as being abandoned.

- 2017-0194: In the Matter of Laura Rencher (RL)
- 2017-0195: In the Matter of Joan Borzilleri (RL)
- 2017-0196: In the Matter of Gina Weller (RL)
- 2017-0198: In the Matter of Cindy Eade (RL)
- 2017-0199: In the Matter of Kathy Ortwerth Towers (RL)

Motioned by: Chair Evans
Seconded by: Commissioner Yee
Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

After much discussion and the Commission having heard from both Mrs. Lindon and Mr. Becker, a motion was made and approved to deny the Motion for Attorney Fees for the following case:

- 2017-0197: In the Matter of Francia Lindon (RL)

Motioned by: Chair Evans

Seconded by: Vice Chair Kreyenbuhl

Vote: 4 to 0 motion carried as approved; Commissioner Barnum remained in abstention due to being unable to fully hear all parties.

ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSALS:

The following Administrative Dismissals were announced to the Commission:

- 2018-0122: In the Matter of Georgians for Pridemore (BW)
- 2017-0173: In the Matter of Michael Julian Bond (BW)
- 2016-0040: In the Matter of Citizens for Safe Communities (BW)
- 2018-0124: In the Matter of Charles Eaton, Jr. & Eaton for PSC (BW)

CONSENT ORDERS:

The following Consent Orders and Preliminary Hearings, which are now Consent Orders were motioned and approved to accept all as presented:

- 2018-0071PC: In the Matter of Marcketh DeJesus (RL)

Motioned by: Chair Evans

Seconded by: Commissioner Watts

Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

- 2016-0028PC: In the Matter of David McDade (DE)

Motioned by: Commissioner Watts

Seconded by: Vice Chair Kreyenbuhl

Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

- 2019-0021: In the Matter of Southeastern Regional Medical Center/Cancer Treatment Centers of America (BW)

Motioned by: Chair Evans

Seconded by: Commissioner Watts

Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

- 2018-0114: In the Matter of Meagan Hanson (BW)

Motioned by: Commissioner Watts

Seconded by: Commissioner Yee

Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

MOTION TO AMEND AGENDA:

A motion was made and approved to amend the agenda to move up the Report of the Executive Secretary and for Items Pending from April 18, 2019 Regular Scheduled Meeting to follow later in the Commission Meeting.

Motioned by: Chair Evans

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Executive Secretary David Emadi provided his report to the Commissioners:

- New Employee Introduction: Mr. Emadi introduced the following new employees to the Commission: Tracey Watson, Staff Attorney; Katie Easterwood, Legal Secretary; Jeff Morris, Legislative Liaison.
- Special Meeting scheduled for August 21, 2019; John W. Oxendine
- Technology Update: Currently working with the City of Atlanta on their new system.
- Case Counts: Currently there are 139 active cases, 15 cases currently with the Office of Administrative Courts for a total of 154. Since December 2018 25 formal complaints have been filed; 17 were accepted, 5 were rejected and 3 were initiated by Commission staff.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S UPDATE:

Christian Fuller gave an update on the requested Opinion on the Increase/Decrease on limits. The Opinion has been drafted and is under formal review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Members of the public presented comment regarding the appointment of the Commission's Executive Secretary.

Following the Public Comment, Chair Evans called for any further comment from the public. Having heard no one, a motion to recess was made and approved.

Motioned by: Chair Evans

Seconded by: Commissioner Watts

Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

ITEMS PENDING FROM APRIL 18, 2019 REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING:

After an amendment to the order of the Agenda, the Commission had discussions and general comments on a potential rule governing the filing of Motions for Attorneys' Fees and what should be required moving forward. This matter will be revisited at a later time in order to allow for further research and for general public notice to be given.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

A motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Motioned by: Chair Evans

Seconded by: Commissioner Watts

Vote: 5 to 0 motion carried as approved

Official Minutes Statement

The foregoing Minutes for the June 27, 2019 meeting of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission were approved and adopted by the Commission at the Commission's meeting on September 26, 2019.



Jake Evans, Chair

Date